

## KANOPY DANCE COMPANY KANOPY ACADEMY FOR CONTEMPORARY DANCE & CHOREOGRAPHY KANOPY STUDIO

341 STATE STREET, MADISON, WI 53703 608.255.2211 WWW.KANOPYDANCE.ORG INFO@KANOPYDANCE.ORG

9/11/18

## Dear Heather,

We are writing you in support of the State Street proposal for a Provenance Hotel. As co-artistic directors of Kanopy Dance Company, a resident company of the Overture Center for the Arts, and as longtime condo owners downtown in Metropolitan Place we cannot begin to express how excited we are about the hotel and the many positive benefits it will have on the Overture "neighborhood".

Each week we bring <u>hundreds of students downtown</u> (3 years old-adult) for classes at the Kanopy Dance Academy at our studios on the 300 block of State Street. and we have late evening rehearsals throughout the year for our four annual mainstage productions at Overture and a variety of workshops and performances. Having a striking, art-oriented hotel as the anchor on the 100 block with positive activity 24/7 will have an invaluable impact on creating a safer, more comfortable and vibrant environment downtown for our students, company members, our guest artists from around the country and, of course, our patrons.

And as downtown residents we welcome the creative vibe and energy of the hotel. Another plus-the removal of the blighted skywalk that distracts from our beautiful Overture Center.

Please support approval of the State Street Provenance Hotel at the plan Commission Monday. The hotel design is a beautiful addition to downtown.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Cleary and Lisa Thurrell

Co-directors of Kanopy Dance Company and Academy